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William Saroyan Society Brings "The Hungerers" to 20th Anniversary Rogue Festival

Fresno, CA: The William Saroyan Society is bringing one of its namesake's lesser-known works to the stage at the Rogue Festival this year. An early absurdist one-act play by Fresno's most famous writer William Saroyan, "The Hungerers" is an American fable reflecting on the hardships of the Depression, the invincibility of the human spirit and the enduring power of art. More than half a century after its publication and premiere in 1939, Saroyan's sentiments in "The Hungerers" still ring true—and with renewed resonance, as the United States navigates an era of economic instability rivaling that of the Great Depression. Zoë Smurr (M.F.A.) directs RJ Curtis (B.F.A.) as The Writer, alongside seasoned veteran Annette Smurr and others in this peculiar play set on a rainy day in an abandoned theatre in Manhattan. Maria Ghazaryan, the granddaughter of the prolific Armenian cinematographer Mikhail Vartanov, will make her theatrical debut. "We are thrilled to be able to renew interest in Saroyan's work and bring it to life on stage," says Smurr. Of this play, Saroyan writes: "The hunger of these hungerers is not a hunger for bread alone, although that hunger is beautiful enough. It is a hunger for immortality. The simple immortality which comes about when human beings rid themselves of all world imposed absurdities and know the foolishness of pride." The title of the play is **The Hungerers**. It will be held at **Dianna's Studio of Dance** opening on **Saturday, March 5, 2022 - 6:30 PM**. The address where the play will be happening is at **826 N Fulton Street, Fresno, CA, 93728**.

Title: **The Hungerers**

Director: **Zoë Smurr**

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BY WILLIAM SAR
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ILLIAM SAROYAN
THE HUNGERERS
BY WILLIAM SAR
OYAN

Plot: An early absurdist one-act play by William Saroyan, The Hungerers is an American fable reflecting on the hardships of the Depression, the invincibility of the human spirit and the enduring power of art.

Cast

RJ Curtis

Maria Ghazaryan

Spencer Byers

Annette Smurr

Abigail Smurr



PRESENTED BY
THE WILLIAM
SAROYAN SOCIETY
DIRECTED BY
ZOË SMURR
ROGUE FEST 2022

The ticket price for this play is **\$12**. All proceeds will go directly to the non-profit William Saroyan Society, the actors and crew.

You can order tickets via this link: roguefestival.ticketleap.com

If you have any questions, please email us at williamsaroyansociety@gmail.com.